

JOAN JOHNSON *for Congress*

SUFFOLK COUNTY • 2nd CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

April 18, 2003

Lawrence H. Norton
General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: M U R #5355
Johnson For Congress – 2000 Committee (C00359158)

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FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

2003 MAY -1 P 3:09

Dear Mr. Norton:

I have received notification that a complaint was filed by the "Center for Responsible Politics." The complaint states that our Campaign Committee received contributions from PAC's in excess of the Federal Election Commission limits.

As the current Treasurer, I have reviewed all of the previously filed Reports Of Receipts and Disbursements and my review confirms receipts as indicated:

VIEW PAC	06-29-2000	\$1,000.00
	07-20-2000	3,000.00
	09-06-2000	1,000.00
	09-28-2000	5,000.00
New American Century PAC	07-20-2000	2,000.00

The complaint states that the VIEW PAC and the New American Century PAC are "affiliated PAC's" and alleges that they are maintained or controlled by the same person, Congresswoman Deborah Pryce.

The complaint further states that our Committee received contributions from these PAC's that exceeded the limits in the amount of \$2,000.

Mr. Norton, the Johnson For Congress 2000 Campaign Committee nor I have the ability to challenge the statements in the complaint. The Committee did not at that time, and to date, I do not know the accuracy of the allegations.

If the statements are indeed accurate, the Committee did not know of the "affiliation" when the contributions were received. If true, as the complaint indicates in paragraphs #59 and #61, our Committee, lacking the resources available to the "Center For Responsible Politics" had no way to know or to determine that these were "affiliated PAC's."

The complaint's "Request For Relief" on page 16, paragraph #69 asks that a determination be made whether any violations occurred and whether any were committed in a "knowing and willful manner."

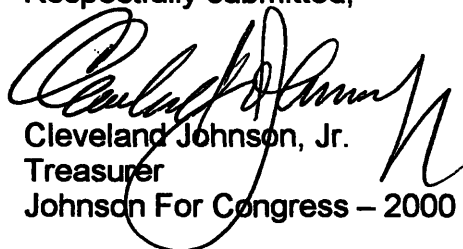
On behalf of the Committee and the then Treasurer, I wish to affirm that there was no intention to violate the Federal Election Commission contribution limits and that there was no knowledge that any contribution received, was in fact, in excess of those limits. Every reasonable effort was taken to ensure compliance with the regulations.

All known excess or inappropriate contributions were in fact returned. There was no way to know if these two PAC's were "affiliated" and if their contributions were in excess. If a contribution received was in fact in excess, no advantage to the campaign can be determined from it.

After the close of the unsuccessful campaign, the remaining funds were applied to settling outstanding bills and accounts. Residual funds were utilized in appropriate contributions. No fund balances remain and the Committee's bank account has been closed. A Termination Report is currently being filed with the Federal Election Commission, which will reflect this status.

I respectfully request that your determination recognize the Committee's effort to comply with all Federal Election Commission regulations and find that there are no violations.

Respectfully submitted,



Cleveland Johnson, Jr.
Treasurer
Johnson For Congress - 2000 Committee